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Minutes

MASSACHUSETTS STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION
50 MAPLE STREET, MILFORD, MA 01757
September 1, 2016, 11:00AM

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:15am by Chair LaTeisha Adams followed by roll call:

Board Members Present

LaTeisha Adams, Chair
Patrick Bradley
Matt Carlin
Paul Karger
Rod Walkey

Guests Present

Guy Licciardi, Director of Regulated Activities
Deirdre Hosler, Deputy General Counsel
Jen Fraga, Program Coordinator

Guests Present

Alan Lau, Licensed MMA and Kickboxing Official
Kevin Hope, Licensed Boxing Official & Chief of Officials USA Boxing N.E.
State Trooper Charlie Murray, Member of State Police Boxing Team

2. Approval of Minutes from June 2, 2016 and June 7, 2016

A motion was made by Commissioner Carlin to approve the minutes from June 2, 2016 and June 7, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Walkey. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

3. Board Handbooks and Training from DPS Legal

Counsel provided an over and training on board handbooks that were distributed to all members of the board including DPS and MSAC staff.

4. Review of Medical Testing Requirements per Executive Order 562 Comments
Counsel reviewed the red-line of 523 CMR specifically outlining the medical testing requirements for professional and amateur un-armed combatants. The recommendations brought forth by the Medical Advisory Board were included from their August 4, 2016 Board Meeting. The red-line regulations will be presented during the public hearing on October 13, 2016.
5. Procedure for Request to Change a Decision under 523 CMR, Section 14.21
Counsel's review of this item in terms for requesting change of decisions, refers to proposed changes to the regulations:

Change of Decision after Contest or Exhibition: Factors Considered by Commission
A request for change of decision after a contest or exhibition must be in writing, and the Commission may, in its discretion, refuse the request without reviewing the decision. If the Commission agrees to review the decision, it will only agree to a change if: The Commission will not change a decision rendered at the end of any contest or exhibition unless:
(1) The Commission determines that there was collusion affecting the result of the contest or exhibition;
(2) The compilation of the scorecards of the judges discloses an error which shows that the decision was given to the wrong unarmed combatant; or
(3) As the result of an error in interpreting a provision of this chapter, the referee has rendered an incorrect decision.

6. Request to Change a Decision – Jay Helger Vs. Dennis Brown, July 30, 2016
MSAC administration presented an email from Dan Savery, coach for Jay Helger requesting a change of decision based on an alleged illegal knee strike to the face. The result was a TKO win for Dennis Brown the opponent. After discussion; Commissioner Bradley put forth a motion based on appropriateness of representation alone that a change of decision is not warranted; the fighter should be the one who files for a request, seconded by Commissioner Carlin. Motion was passed by unanimous vote. Chair Adams noted for the record that if the fighter chooses to file, the Board would not be willing to discuss this request further.
7. Request to Change a Decision – Sarah Payant Vs. Leah Letson, July 30, 2016
MSAC administration presented an email from Sarah Payant requesting a change of decision based on the Referee stopping the match too early. Commissioner Karger made a motion to deny this request supporting the Referee's decision to uphold fighter safety by stopping the fight, seconded by Commissioner Bradley. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.
8. Alan Lau Presentation for Proposed Certification Curriculum for Kickboxing Officials
Alan Lau presented his proposed Certification Curriculum for Kickboxing Officials; outlining the Referee and Judge Training Courses he would provide. Referee Course participants would engage in a full day (9 plus hours) program with a course outline presentation to include video analysis, question & answer discussions, scenario training, and in-the-ring positioning. Judge Course participants would engage in a half day (5 hour) program with an outline of a very specific scoring criteria program.

Counsel suggested that a judge and a referee take the course and provide evaluation back to the Commission. Chair Adams also suggested that the Board take the course.

9. Kevin Hope Variance Request for Amateur Boxing Event

Kevin Hope requested a variance from the medical requirements for the State Police Boxing Event he plans to hold on September 16, 2016 at Marina Bay in Quincy. Mr. Hope explained that the request is brought forward because USA Boxing N.E. would not sanction this event because the team coming in from England does not follow standard USA Boxing regulations. Mr. Hope stated that non-boxers who are participating in this fundraiser event should wear head gear for safety reasons. It was proposed that the majority of the officials that would referee and judge the matches are Massachusetts licensed officials.

- Head gear and 16ounce gloves will be worn by all participants
- All participants will provide a Fit-to-Fight Physical
- Fighter Insurance

Commissioner Carlin put forth a motion to grant the variance as stated, seconded by Commissioner Karger. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Board noted for the record their concern for a sanctioning organization (USA Boxing N. E.) to not sanction an amateur boxing event. It was stated that the *Continued Use of USA Boxing N.E.* be added as an Agenda item for the next upcoming meeting.

10. ABC Changes to Mixed Martial Arts Scoring Criteria

Counsel informed the Board of the changes to the Mixed Martial Arts Scoring Criteria. Counsel suggested that with the upcoming change in the 523 CMR; perhaps now is an opportunity to officially adopt the Unified Rules as a supplementary to our regulations. This item was tabled to the next available Agenda.

11. Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

N/A

12. Adjourn

Chair Adams made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Carlin.
This meeting adjourned at 12:56pm.

List of Documents/Exhibits used at this Meeting

Draft of Minutes, June 2, 2016 and June 7, 2016

DPS Board Handbooks

Request to Change a Decision from Jay Helger (Email)

Official Score Sheet Jay Helger Vs. Dennis Brown – July 30, 2016

Request to Change a Decision from Sarah Payant (Email)

Official Score Sheet Sarah Payant Vs. Leah Letson – July 30, 2016

Official Results Sheet – July 30, 2016 – Premier FC, Springfield

Outline Training Proposal by Alan Lau - Presentation

MMA Juding Criteria/ Scoring – Approved August 2, 2016 – ABC
2017 Unified Rules of MMA “Fouls”